Medicinal value of honey

3156. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that honey collection destroys trees;

(b) if so, what is the universally accepted expert opinion regarding two sources of honey, i.e. wild beehives in the forest and commercially raised hives by beekeepers; and

(c) how far bee honey is useful and what is its medicinal value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) Honey collection through traditional methods of smoking does not destroy a tree.

(c) Honey has many medicinal uses.

Family welfare schemes in Rajasthan

†3157. DR. ABRAR AHMED : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the family welfare schemes of Government running in Rajasthan together with the amount provided for these schemes during the last three years;

(b) the action being taken by Government to eliminate TB, Cancer, AIDS and other such serious diseases together with the amount spent in the country and in Rajasthan during the last three years; and

(c) the number of patients suffering from above diseases in Rajasthan and other States in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) The details of family welfare schemes running in Rajasthan together with the amount provided for these schemes during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given in the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.